

Arafat receives Moroccan message

GAZA STRIP (AP) — A top Moroccan official visited the autonomous Gaza Strip on Tuesday for a meeting with Palestinian officials said. Jerusalem was a main topic on the agenda of Ahmad Ben Sodeh, an emissary from King Hassan II who was the highest ranking Arab visitor to Gaza since it achieved self-rule from Israel on May 15. He met Mr. Arafat for 45 minutes in Gaza City and told reporters afterward he delivered a letter from Mr. Hassan regarding the Israel-Jordan peace process. He also gave Mr. Arafat an invitation to a regional economic conference to be held in Morocco in October. Mr. Arafat said he had invited Mr. Hassan to Jerusalem and reiterated his rejection of Israel's right to invite Arab leaders there. "The one who has the right to invite people to Jerusalem is... myself, in the name of the Palestinian people," Mr. Arafat said. "I am giving an open invitation to His Majesty (Hassan) and his brothers to visit Palestine and Jerusalem."

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جordan Times

Menem supports Jordan's moves

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein on Tuesday received a telephone call from President Carlos Menem of Argentina congratulating him on Jordan's historic steps to achieve a just, comprehensive and durable peace in the region. President Menem said he was proud of his Arab ancestry and expressed his country's readiness to support Jordan's march and to work to enhance bilateral relations. The Argentine president extended an invitation to the King to visit Argentina. The King thanked Mr. Menem and invited him to visit Jordan.

Cabinet approves World Bank aid

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet on Tuesday endorsed a \$196 million grant by the World Bank to finance activities aimed at supporting the banking sector in Jordan and enhancing the financial and banking capacities of the Central Bank of Jordan in addition to developing new methods for granting loans with a view to enhancing competition among commercial banks. The Cabinet also okayed a Sept. 14-17 visit by Labour Minister Khalid Al Ghazawi to Egypt to discuss labour issues with his Egyptian counterpart. The cabinet approved the appointment of Jordan's Ambassador to Egypt Nafez Al Qadi as a non-resident ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Kenya. It also delegated Jordan's Ambassador to Russia Khalid Al Taber to sign the protocol establishing political relations between Jordan and Latvia Republic, and appointed him as non-resident ambassador there.

Jericho mayor quits

JERUSALEM (AP) — Jericho's mayor said Tuesday that he has submitted his resignation to Yasser Arafat because the Palestinian self-government was interfering with his running of the town. "I have asked President Arafat to excuse me from my position because I cannot work under such circumstances," Jamil Sabri Khalaf told Israel Radio. "I am being treated unfairly." Mr. Khalaf, who was appointed by Israel 17 years ago, cited interference from officials in Mr. Arafat's government. But he gave no details. Palestinian officials confirmed receiving a resignation letter in which Mr. Khalaf complained about the treatment of municipal officials in Jericho. They said Mr. Arafat has not decided whether to accept the resignation. Palestinian Municipal Affairs Minister Saeb Erakat said he was not aware of Mr. Khalaf's claims. "He never complained to me," Mr. Erakat said.

Ghali backs Lebanese request

UNITED NATIONS (AFP) — U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali came out Tuesday in support of a Lebanese request for an urgent U.N. Security Council meeting on last week's Israeli strikes in southern Lebanon. Dr. Ghali hopes that the Security Council considers the Lebanese request seriously, his spokesman Ahmad Pawzi said. In consultations Monday, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations Madeleine Albright said that a formal Security Council meeting on the Israeli attack was a bad idea. The attack destroyed a three-story house, killing eight civilians and wounding 12 others, most of them serious.

Dutch plan office in self-rule zone

THE HAGUE (AP) — The Netherlands is to be officially represented in the newly-autonomous Palestinian territories, probably in Jericho, a foreign ministry spokesman said here Tuesday.

Jordan Times

**Jordan, Egypt sign trade deal**

CARIO (Petra) — Minister of Industry and Trade Rima Khalaf and her Egyptian counterpart Mahenoud Mohammad on Tuesday signed a new protocol of commercial cooperation extending Jordanian and Egyptian exemption from customs duties to certain goods imported from each other. These include phosphates, poly-phosphates, mineral and chemical potash fertilisers, steam generating units with a maximum output of 10 tonnes per hour, rubber-tanning moulds, frozen vegetables, Egyptian rice, instant coffee, blades and water meters. Dr. Khalaf said the new protocol includes amendments to a previous one concluded last February. Dr. Khalaf said the volume of trade, which is currently in favour of Egypt, stands short of expectations by both countries. Dr. Mohammad said Jordan and Egypt would increase the volume of trade. The new Aqaba-Eilat border crossing on trade and economic activity, Dr. Khalaf said, will contribute to promoting tourism to and from Jordan.

AMMAN WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10, 1994, RABI' ALAWAL 1, 1415

Price: Jordan 150 Fils

Survey teams to help demarcate 1928 borders

Negotiators launch talks on borders, water at Israeli hotel

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter
with agency dispatches

French controlled Syria and Lebanon.

ISRAEL AND Jordan on Tuesday agreed to dispatch joint survey teams to demarcate their border according to a 1928 League of Nations' map.

The decision was announced by 50-member negotiating teams after talks at a resort hotel on the Israeli side of the Dead Sea.

The talks on delineating the border, sharing water, airspace rights, security and tourism resumed a day after the two sides inaugurated their first border crossing.

They are aimed at reaching a formal peace treaty following the declaration ending a 46-year state of war July 25 in Washington by His Majesty King Hussein and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

It was not immediately clear how the decision to use the map by the League of Nations, the precursor of the United Nations, will affect Jordan's claim to more than 380 square kilometres of land now held by Israel.

While two 50-member teams met here, other teams met at a desert clearing to the south to continue negotiations on demarcating the Israel-Jordan frontier.

The talks are aimed at implementing the Washington Declaration.

Tel Aviv University Professor Asher Susser, an expert on Jordan, said that going back to the 1928 map was "the only way" to mark the frontier.

He noted that the northern borders of Palestine had been clearly delineated because Britain had a mandate to govern there, while the rival

Asked about Syrian and Palestinian concerns over their share of water from both rivers, Dr. Mousher noted that the topic was being discussed as part of the wider U.S.-backed peace process.

"Here we are only dealing with bilateral divisions of the water," he said.

In the biggest development stemming from the Jordan-Israel agreement to date, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and Mr. Rabin snipped a ribbon Monday inaugurating the first land crossing, about four kilometres north of the Red Sea ports of Aqaba and Eilat.

Chief Israeli negotiator Elyakim Rubinstein announced Tuesday he expects a second border crossing to be set up soon with Jordan.

"We hope to open the second border crossing in the north... after its exact location is worked out by agreement," he said.

Peace negotiators, led by Jordan's Fayed Al Tarawneh and Israel's Elyakim Rubinstein, exchanged warm handshakes and smiles when they met at the Moriah Plaza Dead Sea Hotel.

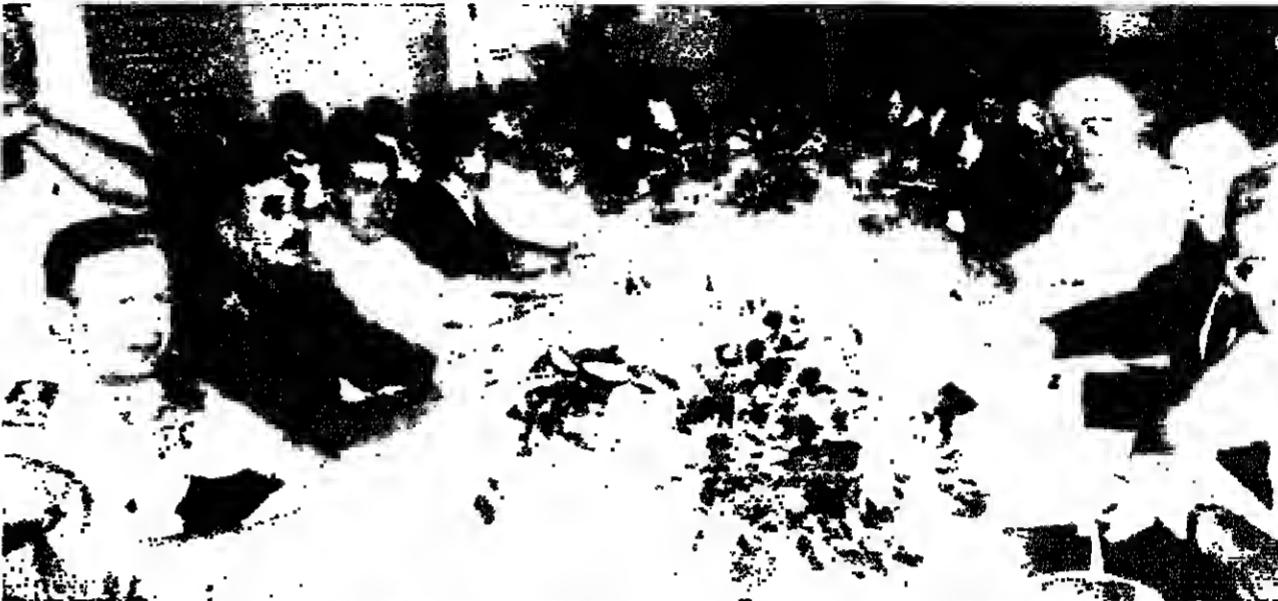
They will be discussing issues including security, water, energy and the environment, civil aviation, trade and tourism.

"Never in the previous days or decades have friction and reality come so close together," Dr. Tarawneh said in an opening speech.

"The feelings that have paralleled them over the past two years have been both unique and exciting."

"We hope a great deal to the wisdom and courage of His Majesty King Hussein and we feel in debt to the positive and immediate response of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. Both have made possible the emergence and fruition in and reality in recent days. Thanks are due to them as well as the president of the U.S., Bill Clinton."

(Continued on page 7)



Jordanian and Israeli negotiators at the opening session of Tuesday's meeting at the Moriah Plaza Dead Sea Hotel in Israel (photo by Yousef Al Allan)

'Confidence measures' aside, Israel showing little shift in negotiating tactic

From Nermene Mirad near the southern tip of the Dead Sea on the Israeli side

OUTSIDE THE DEAD SEA resort, an old raft stands as a landmark of the problems that yet have to be resolved before Israeli-Jordanian relations can become completely normalised.

"Jordan Israel Express" says a large sign straddling the obviously old raft that in times of peace would have been moving back and forth between the Jordanian and Israeli shores of the Dead Sea separating them.

But there is no "express" way between the newly-reconciled states.

On the way to this touristic area where Israeli and Jordanian negotiators meet for the first time on Israeli territory on Tuesday, the narrow

winding road had obviously been deserted for the length of the 49 odd years of conflict between Arabs and Israel.

The Israeli bus, shuttling Jordanian journalists into Israel "for the first time," drove on a newly washed winding road that had been accumulating sand since 1967.

Yet while the sand was quickly removed to create road access between Jordan and Israel and across the Dead Sea, the problems that have lingered unresolved since the 1967 war are still far from being resolved.

The only new element that had accompanied the series of "for the first time" events since Jordan allowed its

that we have to reach agreement and not just settle down with ceremonies," a senior Jordanian negotiator told the Jordan Times.

Not only do Jordanian negotiators feel pressured by the need to maintain the sense of momentum that has accompanied the quick development in its relations with Israel in the past three weeks, but they also feel that improved relations with Washington and promises made to the U.S. administration to reach agreement and sign a peace treaty with Israel cannot be forgotten.

"This is not only an effort to reach peace with Israel," a Jordanian negotiator told the Jordan Times. "This is also an effort to maintain the level of improved relations with

(Continued on page 7)

Tourists trickle through 'Araba'

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The flow of tourist traffic between Jordan and Israel is starting to trickle through the "Araba Crossing," which was opened on Monday, reports from both sides said.

A Jordanian official said 58 tourists of European and American nationalities came in through the crossing on Tuesday while 60 of similar nationalities went out.

The crossing, which was opened by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin on Monday, is limited to third country nationals. No Israeli or Jordanian passport holders or Israeli or Jordanian-licensed vehicles will be allowed through.

However, the arrangement leaves open the possibility of Israelis who hold dual passports could use the crossing to come in on their non-Israeli passports.

But reports from the Israeli side said Tuesday Israelis that wanted to cross on non-Israeli passports were turned away because they had not applied for visas beforehand.

Officials said Israelis who crossed needed to have prior clearance regardless of whether they held non-Israeli passports.

The crossing is expected to boost tourism on both sides, officials say. Tourists are allowed entry to both sides on condition that they spend a minimum of three days on whichever side they are crossing.

However, infrastructure in Aqaba would have to be expanded to cope with an expected influx of tourists this season. Aqaba has less than 2,000 hotel rooms compared with Eilat's 20,000.

The opening of the Araba Crossing, about four

kilometres north of Aqaba and Eilat, was part of "confidence-building" measures stipulated in the Washington Declaration signed by His Majesty King Hussein and Mr. Rabin on July 25.

The declaration also calls for another crossing further north.

Chief Israeli negotiator Elyakim Rubinstein said at the beginning of a new round of negotiations on territories and water rights on Tuesday that the second crossing would be opened after agreement was reached on its precise location (see separate story).

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The opening of the Araba Crossing, about four

Hizbullah: attacks will not be stopped

BEIRUT (AP) — The Hizbullah group has vowed to step up attacks on a border strip Israel occupied in South Lebanon, dismissing an Israeli claim that Syria has promised to rein in guerrillas.

A statement by Hizbullah, or Party of God, described as "mere allegation" a comment by Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres that violence in South Lebanon was over.

Mr. Peres gave Syria credit for its role in ending the Syria-Israel peace agreement.

"We are highly confident that President Hafez Al Assad particularly on the nature of the struggle with Israel," said Hizbullah's spokesman.

"The Syrians have said repeatedly that resistance (against Israeli occupation) is a natural right of our people, who will continue to exercise it as long as our land is occupied."

WELCOME TO JORDAN

Tourists pass through the "Araba Crossing" to Jordan (AFP photo)

U.S.: Syria, Israel weighing price of compromise deal

SHANNON AIRPORT, Ireland (Agencies) — Israel and Syria are engaged in serious negotiations, probing each other's positions to see if peace is worth the price of compromise, U.S. officials said on Tuesday.

They spoke as U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher headed back for Washington after his fourth Middle East peace shuttle in three months on an upbeat note but without a breakthrough on the Syria-Israel peace drive.

But they described a process of serious bargaining that they said would well produce results over time.

Mr. Christopher and his top Middle East adviser are going on holiday soon but plan to visit the region again in September and possibly monthly thereafter until an agreement is achieved.

Mr. Christopher told reporters that his trip to the Middle East in July had removed some of the major psychological barriers between Israel and Syria and the result was that on the just-completed mission

(Continued on page 7)

PLO, Israel agree on tourism issue, defer budget talks

CAIRO (Agencies) — Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) on Tuesday agreed on the transfer of authority over tourism to Palestinians in the West Bank but postponed talks on finance until next week.

Their decision came as the World Bank said it would help finance the Palestinians' budget deficit and speed up delayed assistance to Gaza and Jericho (see page 12).

The two sides here agreed that Israel would keep control over archaeological sites, while the new Palestinian National Authority (PNA) will take charge of tourism services.

The tourism issue was finalised in the fifth session of talks here on the extension of Palestinian self-rule throughout the West Bank.

Negotiators have now hammered out the transfer of powers to four of five designated sectors — education, health and social affairs as well as tourism.

But the fifth sector, a system of income tax, is causing problems. "Income tax is not an easy issue," said General Danny Ronen, Israeli delegation head.

"When we have finished it, we will talk about enforcement and a general paper."

The two sides have agreed to draw up an overall document outlining the new Palestinian powers, which will be sent to international donors who have pledged to make up the shortfall in the Palestinian budget until the tax system is up and running.



BRIEFS

King orders equipment purchase for link-up with Mayo Clinic

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein has ordered that the Royal Medical Services purchase the necessary equipment to link up the King Hussein Medical Centre and the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota in the United States.

According to Yonsef Gousus, director of the Royal Medical Services, the King has promised to donate the cost of the equipment and ordered that it be purchased as soon as possible.

The televideo link-up will allow for the diagnosis and

treatment of patients in Jordan without having to travel to the Mayo Clinic, said Dr. Gousus in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

He said all hospitals in the Kingdom could later be linked with the King Hussein Medical Centre and the Mayo Clinic to obtain the same services.

In addition, the televideo connection offers an excellent opportunity for Jordanian medical teams to obtain training here as well as access to the latest medical advances through the reputed Mayo Clinic.

Earlier this year, Jihad Barghouti, chairman of the Amman Diagnostic Centre, a private sector venture, said a direct satellite link with televideo facilities would be established between his centre and the Mayo Clinic to facilitate on-the-spot diagnosis of patients in Amman.

The Mayo Clinic is considered one of the best medical facilities internationally.

King Hussein underwent successful cancer surgery at the Rochester facility in August 1992. He has returned to the Mayo Clinic several times since then for periodic check-ups.

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U.S. grants new \$15m aid to Haiti, but release delayed

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States donated \$15 million worth of wheat flour to Haiti Monday, but said the lion's share of the donation will not be released until ousted President Jean-Bertrand Aristide returns to power.

"The United States government insists on the restoration of constitutional government in Haiti, represented by President Jean-Bertrand Aristide," said Brian Atwood, administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development, the agency in charge of the grant.

The wheat flour, donated through the U.S. Food for Development Programme, will be sold at Haitian ports to local users. The proceeds will then be distributed to relief agencies and other groups to be used in feeding and jobs programmes and other development projects.

Also announced at the signing of the agreement was an upcoming "informal donors conference" on Aug. 26 on Haitian reconstruction. The conference will be sponsored by the World Bank.

Washington granted \$20 million worth of wheat flour to Haiti last year under the same programme.

But this year, in an effort to make sure the proceeds do not get into the hands of Haiti's military government and to put more pressure on anti-Aristide forces, most of the donation will be held until Mr. Aristide is in power again.

Under the agreement reached after lengthy consultations between U.S. and Haitian officials, only the portion of the donation — about \$3 million worth — to be used for food distribution programmes will be released right away.

About \$9.4 million to be used toward job creation programmes and other economic development projects will be withheld pending Mr. Aristide's return to power. The remaining money will go toward administrative costs of the programme.

IRA Kurzban, council to the Aristide government, said he was hopeful that Mr.

Aristide would be back in power soon and that none of the money would have to be held up.

"Soon we expect to celebrate the restoration of hope in Haiti," said Mr. Aristide at a signing ceremony of the agreement.

But recent developments in Haiti, including a large pro-military demonstration over the weekend and the expulsion of three U.S. reporters, indicated military leader Lieutenant General Raoul Cedras was continuing to dig in his heels.

The agreement also calls for more frequent consultations with Mr. Aristide on the progress of the programme and restricts certain persons friendly to the Haitian military government from purchasing any of the wheat flour or carrying out any of the food distribution or other projects.

Last year's \$20 million donation did not impose any similar restrictions, and while both U.S. and Haitian officials were careful to praise

the benefits of the programme, a Haitian official admitted, "there has been some problems with who's been the recipient of the programme."

Mr. Atwood estimated that even with the new restrictions, proceeds generated by the sale of the wheat flour will enable the feeding of some 1 million young, old and handicapped Haitians. "It is important to protect the most vulnerable of Haiti's people," he said.

Recent studies show that hunger and malnutrition in Haiti, long a problem, continue to be widespread and are worsening. Current statistics from aid show that almost half of Haiti's youngsters under five years of age suffer some degree of malnutrition and that about 3-5 per cent of all children suffer severe malnutrition.

Unemployment has also been a huge problem in Haiti. Officials said Monday that last year's \$20 million donation will ultimately give work to about 100,000 Haitians for an average of two months.



Children pray for the atomic bomb victims at a atomic bombing of the western Japan port church to mark the 49th anniversary of the city, Nagasaki (AFP photo)

Nagasaki mayor urges elimination of nuclear weapons from the world

TOKYO (AFP) — Nagasaki Mayor Hitoshi Motomatsu renewed his calls to eliminate nuclear weapons from the world as the western port city marked the 49th anniversary of the U.S. atomic bombing

of Hiroshima on Aug. 6, 1945, and of Nagasaki three days later.

Mr. Motomatsu also voiced strong opposition to an unconditional and indefinite extension of the present Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), which allows global nuclear powers to continue possessing such weapons.

Preceding Mr. Motomatsu's "peace declaration" speech, participants of the ceremony attended by 25,000 people, including survivors of the bombing as well as Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama.

The 72-year-old mayor, himself a survivor of the blast, urged the Murayama government to declare to the world that "the use of nuclear weapons violates international law."

In June, the administration of Mr. Murayama's predecessor, Tsutomu Hata, retracted a plan to acknowledge the legality of nuclear weapons following strong criticism from the public, particularly sufferers of the atomic bombing.

Prime Minister Murayama, however, did not touch upon the relief law, as was the case with the similar ceremony in Hiroshima three days ago.

He merely said his government would "make efforts to enhance measures to support atomic bombing sufferers."

Japanese politicians fear that such a law would enable new demands from Asian individuals who suffered from Japan's military aggression in Asia.

Mr. Murayama, the first Socialist prime minister in 47 years, told the crowd at the Municipal Rugby and Soccer Stadium near the epicentre of the bombing that he would seek nuclear disarmament through the United Nations.

"I vow to the spirit of the dead that I will make further efforts to promote nuclear disarmament, stem the spread of nuclear arsenals and, ultimately, eliminate nuclear arms," Mr. Murayama said.

Girl rescued from python's deadly grip

KATHMANDU (AFP) — A nine-year-old girl narrowly escaped being crushed to death by python while grazing her goats. Nepal's RSS news agency said Tuesday.

The national agency said Janaki Thapa was attacked at Mahendranagar near Nepal-India frontier. "The four-metre-long (13-feet) reptile attacked and gripped her waist and slowly began to crush her," RSS said. Janaki

"Screamed for help and her friends playing nearby immediately arrived at the scene and rescued her by killing the python," it said. The girl is now in hospital in Mahendranagar.

Boy saves rabbit with mouth-to-mouth resuscitation

PERTH, Australia (AFP) — A 13-year-old Australian boy has saved his drowning rabbit by giving him mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. James Thorogood, 13, rescued his pet rabbit Boogedy from the bottom of the family swimming pool in the seaside suburb of Sorrento, Western Australia, last Friday. "I was terribly alarmed when I noticed he had no heartbeat," said James, who ripped off his clothes and dove into the near-freezing water to pull Boogedy from the pool. "I just started giving him mouth-to-mouth treatment and pressing lightly on his chest," he said, cuddling the white rabbit. "Thankfully, after about two minutes, Boogedy coughed up water and began breathing again."

James said he had not been taught how to apply resuscitation, but believed he probably acted instinctively after watching an American television series called Baywatch about lifeguards in southern California.

Madonna gets restraining order against fan

LOS ANGELES (R) — Madonna was granted a restraining order against an alleged obsessed fan who was barred from going near the singer, her home or her office.

The order, signed by Superior Court Judge William Allen, bars Todd Lawrence from going within 100 metres of Madonna or her property for the next three years.

Mr. Lawrence had allegedly been stalking Madonna for two weeks before he was arrested on July 19 on the grounds of her estate. He allegedly claimed to be Madonna's husband and was arrested after scaling an eight-foot (2.4-metre) security fence to get on the grounds of her estate. Mr. Lawrence was in prison awaiting an Aug. 16 trial on charges of trespass, assaulting a police officer and resisting arrest.

According to court records, one of Madonna's security guards, Basil Stephens, arrested Mr. Lawrence at gunpoint and handcuffed him after watching him on a television monitor as Mr. Lawrence scaled the fence. He was then handed over to police. The 35-year-old singer's million-dollar Hollywood estate is guarded by an electronic gate, security fence and television cameras.

Angola government, rebels adopt accord

LUSAKA (R) — Angolan government negotiators

signed an 11-point procedural agreement with UNITA rebels

Tuesday but thorny questions of power-sharing still stand in the way of a peace pact.

UNITA spokesman Jorge Valentim and government spokesman Caneira Higino told Reuters they were adopting the procedural accord before moving on to the next agenda item at long-running peace talks — the security of UNITA leaders.

"We are adopting today the 11 points on the modalities on national reconciliation

and we will start to discuss the security of UNITA leaders next," Mr. Higino said. "We are not signing an agreement on national reconciliation... there are other issues still pending before a final agreement can be reached on national reconciliation," said Mr. Valentim. Details of the 11-point agreement were not made public.

Mr. Valentim said issues still outstanding included which side would control Huambo, the central Angolan province where UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi has his headquarters.

Both the rebels and the

government have rejected a proposal for a neutral administration of Huambo.

Angola's deputy foreign minister, Jorge Chicoty, said Monday in the Zambian capital Lusaka, the venue for the peace talks, that his government supported further U.N. sanctions against UNITA (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) because the rebels were being inflexible.

The United Nations has threatened to extend sanctions against UNITA if the rebels fail to agree to a peace deal by the end of July.

Kuchma takes control over government

KIEV (R) — Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma has

issued two decrees putting himself directly in charge of the government and subordinating all local councils to the presidency, state television said Monday.

Mr. Kuchma won a decisive election victory over in-

cumbent Leonid Kravchuk last month on a pledge to improve the faltering economy and build closer ties with Russia.

The decrees, which give

Mr. Kuchma the power to set

the government's agenda and

appoint and sack the heads of

powerful state committees,

are in line with his assertions

that he will create a strong

presidency.

One decree gives Mr.

Kuchma hands-on control of

the government in order to

boost the executive branch's

power to implement econo-

mic reforms in the former

Soviet republic.

"The most important issues of realising economic transformations, forming market relations and providing social protection will be resolved by the cabinet of ministers with the direct participation of the president of Ukraine," said the decree, which was read on state television news.

Prime Minister Vitaly

Masol will remain in his post.

The second decree sub-

ordinates the heads of

Ukraine's 27 regional coun-

cils directly to the president,

filling an executive power

vacuum created when a sys-

tem of presidential repres-

sents was dissolved in July.

In a separate development,

a leading member of the

Christian Liberal Party in the

Ukrainian region of Crimea

was badly wounded Tuesday

in a machinegun attack by

unidentified assailants, police

said.

Alexander Rulev, a mem-

ber of the party's Executive

Council, was shot in Sevastopol, city police said.

Two of Mr. Rulev's bodyguards

were also hit and hospitalised.

The motive was not known

and an inquiry was under-

way, police said.

Mr. Kuchma has already

World News

JORDAN TIMES, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10, 1994 5

U.N. Sarajevo airlift resumes

SARAJEVO (R) — The United Nations airlift into Sarajevo resumed Tuesday, relaxing a stranglehold the Bosnian Serbs have clamped on the beleaguered city.

In northwestern Bosnia, nearly 7,000 soldiers and civilians loyal to a rebel Muslim leader fled from the Bihać enclave into neighboring Croatia following advances by Muslim forces loyal to the government in Sarajevo.

The retreat appeared to mark the effective collapse of forces loyal to maverick Bihać businessman Fikret Abdic, a United Nations spokesman said in Zagreb.

In central Bosnia, the Muslim-led Bosnian army appeared to be sending reinforcements to front lines facing territories held by the Bosnian Serbs.

The Bosnian army has been taking advantage of a rift between the Bosnian Serbs and their backers in Bihać and has pressed home offensives and seized territory in recent days.

"The Canadian (U.N.) battalion reported a high level of (BH) (Bosnian army) troop movements through the Kiseljak pocket in the direction of Zreza and Kresovo after dark," said U.N. military spokesman Major Rob Annink.

The Serbian-led Yugoslav government in Belgrade last Thursday broke off relations with the Bosnian Serbs because of their continued refusal to accept an international peace plan.

Anxious to avoid a threatened escalation of international sanctions, Serbian President Slobodan Milošević ordered the borders between Yugoslavia and Bosnian Serb territory closed to all but food, medicine and humanitarian aid.

The Bosnian Serbs have remained defiant, and have declared they will go ahead with a referendum on Aug.

27-28, which is expected to produce a further rejection of the peace plan drawn up by the international "contact group" comprising Russia, the United States, Britain, Germany and France.

Bosnian Serb officials said Tuesday that one million ballot papers were being printed.

Bosnian Serbs will be asked "Are you in favour of the maps on the territorial demarcation of the former Bosnia-Herzegovina, as proposed by the international contact group?" the Bosnian Serb News Agency (SRNA) reported.

Officials in the Bosnian Serb stronghold of Pale described the Serbian blockade as "a life-threatening emergency."

Prices of some foods and fuel had already started to rise in the mountain resort just outside Sarajevo.

In Sarajevo, U.N. officials said the Bosnian Serbs had ordered a block on the movement of U.N. military convoys Tuesday, in an apparent escalation of their war of nerves with the U.N. Protection Force.

The Serbian blockade, although providing for the transport of humanitarian supplies into Bosnia, was actually preventing their movement.

Peter Kessler, a spokesman for the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, said the Bosnian Serb Army (BSA) had given approval for six U.N. convoys, but they did not get past the Yugoslav border because of the blockade.

"The BSA told us we had convoy clearance to Srebrenica and six other towns in eastern Bosnia but I am told all those convoys have gone back because of the border blockade," he said.

However, the international airlift to Sarajevo resumed Tuesday, after having been

interrupted for 19 days, except for a brief resumption last Friday before being suspended as a security precaution.

A Canadian C-130 cargo plane was the first of 14 flights scheduled to land Tuesday, according to the UNHCR.

The airlift was stopped on July 21 after a spate of incidents in which aircraft came under fire at the airport.

Food prices have soared in Sarajevo since the Bosnian Serbs cut the only overland route into the city last month.

In Zagreb, the United Nations said thousands of civilians and soldiers loyal to Mr. Abdic were fleeing to Croatia.

Spokesman Paul Risley told reporters: "Five thousand one hundred civilians and 1,600 armed and uniformed soldiers are crossing the border... this would appear to represent the end of Mr. Abdic's forces as an effective fighting unit."

Mr. Abdic, a businessman and former member of the Muslim-led Bosnian leadership, split with Sarajevo almost a year ago and declared autonomy in part of the Bihać enclave.

'Serbia sanctions could be eased'

U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher said Tuesday U.N. sanctions against Serbia could be eased if Belgrade's leaders follow through on promises to halt aid and material to Bosnian Serbs.

He said Yugoslav President Slobodan Milošević appeared to be making good on his pledge to close the border with Serb-held areas of Bosnia, but more proof was needed before the U.N. Security Council moves to lift the sanctions.

"There has been at least partially effective attempt to close the border between Serbia and Bosnia," said Christopher.

North Korean officers and soldiers pledge loyalty to Supreme commander Kim Jong-Il in front of a statue of late President Kim Il-Sung

in the Kim Il-Sung Military Academy in Pyongyang (AFP photo)

15 killed in Burundi clashes

BUJUMBURA (R) — At least 15 people have been killed in two days of clashes in Burundi, a volatile central African state which diplomats fear may follow neighbouring Rwanda down the path to chaotic tribal conflict.

The clashes, involving angry youths of the minority Tutsi tribe, brought commerce to a standstill in the capital Bujumbura. Aid workers say they threaten the main U.N. supply route to Rwandan refugees in southwest Rwanda and eastern Zaire.

Trouble was sparked by the arrest of opposition politician Mathias Hirimana, leader of the Tutsi-led Party for the Reconciliation of the People.

Witnesses said scores were injured in the clashes that began Sunday and continued Monday. They counted 15 bodies killed from Sunday to Monday.

Dujumbara was calm Tuesday but markets, banks and shops were closed. Residents stayed indoors.

"The situation here is tense. Anything could happen here," a resident working for an international aid agency told Reuters.

Burundi's Tutsi leadership was gradually yielding power to Hutus in the last few years but renegade Tutsi soldiers murdered the country's first Hutu president, Melchior Ndadaye, last October.

Thousands of people were killed following Mr. Ndadaye's death and the country has remained unstable since then.

His successor, Cyprien Ntaryamira, also a Hutu, was killed in a plane crash with Rwandan military strongman Juvenal Habyarimana, in the Rwandan capital Kigali on April 6.

A civil unrest campaign was announced last week by groups who accuse the government of oppressing the Hutu majority in Burundi, after recent campaigns to confiscate illegal arms in areas mainly inhabited by Hutus.

The Unification Ministry did not say why it released the report Tuesday, though much of the information contained in it is not new.



Tipper Gore, wife of U.S. Vice President Al Gore, comforts a Rwandan refugee during transportation to a field hospital in the Kibumba camp, near the Zairean town of Goma. Mrs. Gore, who insisted her visit was personal and said she

France to pull troops out of Rwanda as planned

PARIS (AFP) — France, under pressure to retain troops in Rwanda to forestall an exodus of terrified civilians, still plans to pull them out on schedule by Aug. 22, French military and diplomatic sources said Tuesday.

But Mr. Christopher cautioned that Belgrade had made similar promises in the past that were not fulfilled.

The situation had to be watched carefully. He also said he would not be the first one to push for easing the embargo.

Meanwhile, the staff of the Bosnian Serb diplomatic mission in Belgrade have been told to leave by the Serb authorities, members of their entourage said Tuesday.

The notice to quit their offices is the latest blow to the previously strong ties between the two states, which were fractured after Serbia last week lost patience with its former ally over its rejection of the international peace plan for the region.

The intensity of diplomatic pressure on the Bosnian Serbs increased Tuesday with a meeting in Belgrade between President Milošević and Sergio De Mello, the director of Civil Affairs for the United Nations Protection Force in Bosnia (UNPROFOR).

The U.N. World Food Programme representative in Rwanda, Trevor Page, told a press conference in the Rwandan capital Kigali that he had seen three groups of Rwandans trekking out of the zone Monday, one of them 200 strong.

He said Kigali was already host to some 300,000 refugees and aid workers did not have the food for them.

In another disturbing development, the UNHCR warned of a possible outbreak of typhus in the Mugunga camp near Goma, after 19 persons died with symptoms similar to those of the highly infectious disease.

"There are about 30 patients in hospital this week who have high fever, red eyes, neurological symptoms that are evidently symptoms of typhus," Ms. Foa said.

Nineteen of the patients have already died, she said.

She said the French army had taken blood samples to a laboratory and expected the outcome within three days.

"If the result is positive, it could become an epidemic."

The aim is for troops of the U.N. Assistance Mission in Rwanda (UNAMIR) to replace those of Operation Turquoise, which is at its peak involved some 3,000 French soldiers and African colleagues in Rwanda and Zaire.

A contingent of 700 Ethiopian UNAMIR troops was due to arrive in the safety zone on Aug. 17, French military spokesman Colonel Alain Rambeau said in Goma Monday.

"Any delay in the establishment of UNAMIR in the south could lead to a flow of refugees and residents towards Zaire and Burundi," Col. Rambeau said, adding that the Cyangugu region was particularly sensitive because of a camp of some 12,000 Tutsi refugees near the town.

The zone is largely populated by Rwandans of the Hutu ethnic majority. The Tutsi-led RPF has accused Paris of protecting Hutu former government soldiers and extremist militias blamed for the genocide of more than half a million people.

French Foreign Ministry spokesman Richard Duque said Tuesday that France would "facilitate" visits to

Ghanian peacekeepers in the town of Gikongoro and discussed details of the handover.

"The threat of another catastrophe when we still haven't got Goma in control is at last preoccupying the U.N. and us. The big question is whether it is all too late," said a senior aid official.

"The southwest was badly neglected by us because of what were seen as more pressing emergencies in Rwanda and Zaire. We are now having to pay the price for that neglect," he added.

Gen. Dallaire and U.N. special representative to Rwanda Shahryar Khan drove from the capital Kigali to Gikongoro, the expected epicenter of any new explosion of refugees towards Zaire.

A U.N. spokesman said they met Ghanaian U.N. troops who will take over from the French and were tying up handover details.

The United Nations has appealed to France to keep its 1,500 troops in the safe zone set up in June to reassure the displaced and frightened Hutus who sought French protection.



An underfed Rwandan child eats some biscuits at the Katale refugee camp, north from the Zairean town of Goma. The UNHCR refugee agency added its voice to fears of a massive exodus from Rwanda once French troops quit the humanitarian safety zone they have created inside Rwanda (AFP photo)

One, two, three ... problems surround Berlusconi

ROME (AFP) — Three major problems Tuesday confronted Italian Premier Silvio Berlusconi, struggling with internal strife in the shaky three-way coalition, a fiasco over his government's advertising campaign and the judicial inquiry into his business empire.

Probably the most serious for the long-term future of his government are the widening and increasingly public disagreements with the federalist Northern League, one of

the three members of the government coalition.

He also accused Mr. Berlusconi of wanting to help his Mondadori publishing group through a decree on authors' rights currently blocked by a Senate committee.

Mr. Berlusconi's spokesman said that Mr. Bossi had now "gone over the top" and wondered if it would not be more realistic for the

Hopes fade for trapped Aussie miners after blasts

MOURA, Australia (AFP) — Hopes of rescuing 11 Australian coal miners faded fast Tuesday as two more explosions ripped through the mine in which they have been trapped since Sunday night.

Mine officials had earlier ruled out any prospect of a rescue Tuesday because of fires and high concentrations of explosive methane and carbon monoxide gases confirmed by tests through shafts drilled overnight.

"The situation for those trapped below has deteriorated considerably," a Moura police spokesman said after the latest explosions.

Relatives, friends and workmates of the trapped miners heard the grim news from Mr. Lambley and saw the smoke rising after an anguished 36 hour wait since Sunday's disaster.

Rescuers could not go down until tests of gas levels were completed, but that would take another 24 hours.

"The longer it goes, the slimmer the possibilities."

He said the mine was "still in an explosive situation."

Mine owners BHP Coal said after the third explosion there was "grave concern" for the safety of the trapped men.

But company spokesman David McDonald said it was not known where the explosion had occurred in the mine, closed since Sunday and now under threat of permanent closure following a series of disasters.

No rescue would now be attempted until the whole mine had stabilised, he said.

Features

Survey teams to help demarcate border

(Continued from page 1)

Dr. Tarawneh referred to the signing of the Washington Declaration and said: "History since then has been in the making."

"Each day qualifies to be a separate chapter in the Middle East ...," he said.

"The events of the past two days, two weeks, are so vivid in our memories, from the bilateral committee meeting we have hosted on our shore of the Dead Sea, to the Washington Declaration, to the safe return of His Majesty King Hussein to Amman flying over the Holy City and the Israeli air space, and to the spectacular events of yesterday which we all were very lucky to witness, and finally to the meeting of today marking the first of several that we all will hold on Israeli soil, with equal frequency of similar meetings on Jordanian soil."

Mr. Rubenstein said: "We welcome you all for the first time in our negotiations in Israel. We reciprocate now after having been hosted graciously by the Jordanian government on the other side of the Dead Sea and then saw the plane."

"Then the voices of the direct telephone links inaugurated two days ago between the president of Israel and His Majesty the King of Jordan, and of course we were all encouraged by the touching moments of yesterday in the very historic event of the meetings in Aqaba."

On behalf of my government I would like to thank the Jordanian Government, His Majesty, His Royal Highness, for the hospitality and the atmosphere for the good

beginning in our new era of relationship and we are all moved by what happened yesterday. We look forward for continued work together and towards peace.

Ladies and gentlemen,

The spirit of the Washington Declaration in the meetings of yesterday is with us today as we resume the bilateral negotiations, the echoes of the unforgettable event where His Majesty King Hussein was joined by Prime Minister Rabin in the presence of President Clinton in announcing the termination of the state of belligerence and war between Israel and Jordan. These echoes are still with us today.

So was the sound of the winds of the plane, of His Majesty's plane crossing the sky of Israel, and we had an opportunity to talk just a minute later, Tarawneh and myself, as I called him from Tel Aviv from my car. In fact when I was watching the plane and listening to the radio and calling Dr. Tarawneh and telling him that I just saw the plane.

Our delegations will continue this and next week the negotiations on matters of substance on peace, security, boundaries, economy, environment, energy, civil aviation, tourism and the fight against crime and drugs.

We believe that a just peace can and will be reached between us in its fullest sense and we will honour every result of the negotiations in all fields.

Then

the

UAE announces curbs on Asian maids, expat families

ABU DHABI (AFP) — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) Tuesday announced new immigration rules that will curb the entry of Asian maids and foreigners' families.

The UAE has nearly 150,000 housemaids, nearly eight per cent of the population. Sri Lankans account for more than two thirds of the maids while the rest are from India, Bangladesh, Indonesia and Philippines.

Under the new rules, to be enforced on Sept. 1, any expatriate seeking a visa for a housemaid must produce a certificate proving his monthly salary is at least 6,000 dirhams (\$1,635).

Employers should also pay a tax to the government amounting to the annual salary of their maids, according to the new regulations, car-

ried by the official news agency WAM.

"Previously any person could bring in a housemaid without a salary certificate or paying taxes," a UAE official said.

"The new measures are intended to curb the flow of housemaids into our country after a sharp increase in their numbers. There is no doubt such measures will be effective as a lot of people are below that salary."

The new rules also introduced restrictions on the entry of the families of foreigners, who account for more than 90 per cent of the 700,000 workforce and around 80 per cent of the population.

An employee seeking to bring in his family should have a monthly salary of at least 4,000 dirhams (\$1,090),

while existing rules stipulate a salary of 3,000 dirhams (\$817).

Only doctors and nurses, engineers, lawyers, teachers, oil employees, army officers, businessmen and allied staff will be granted as for their families under the new rules.

Housemaid recruitment offices, which have mushroomed over the past five years, said they expected the new measures to hit their business.

A manager of one of the offices said many of their customers were medium-income people, who do not earn more than the sum specified by the new laws.

"This means our business will plummet by more than half even if we slash our prices," he told AFP. "I am afraid some offices could be

forced to close."

UAE officials have often complained about growing reliance on domestic servants because of their different traditions and culture.

They have issued warnings of their effects on children saying many of the housemaids are non-Muslim and illiterate.

Employment of housemaids was virtually non-existent in the Gulf before oil was struck and brought immense wealth to the desert region. It enabled the UAE to have one of the highest per capita income in the world, standing at around \$12,000 in 1993.

A housemaid earns between \$100 and \$300 a month in the UAE and the new rules set the minimum salary at 400 dirhams (\$109).

EU single currency plans still on track, but tests ahead

BRUSSELS (R) — More than one year after the crisis that had many pundits playing the last post for the European Union's (EU) single currency plans, the project is still alive and kicking but it faces untold tests ahead, economists say.

Most of the member currencies of the exchange rate mechanism (ERM) are now back within their former 2.25 or six per cent fluctuation bands despite the fact that for the past 12 months they have been allowed to bounce 15 per cent either side of central rates.

For most of the last nine months they have also shown a degree of stability that is remarkable when compared to the gyrations that preceded the crisis decision by EU finance ministers before dawn on Aug. 2 last year.

"We have had more stability over the past year. The real thing that has helped has been the European recovery," economist Peter Barrie of BZW in London said by telephone.

"But there are still some structural problems that persist, and they could cause problems in the future," he pointed out.

Facing national finances that are still out of control in most countries and taking last December's white paper on jobs and economic growth from the European Commission as a cue, all EU states have begun tackling their labour market laws and social security systems. But progress is patchy.

"Real convergence is still very far away," Peter Praet, chief economist of Belgium's Generale de Banque said recently. "Economic cycles are still not synchronised in Europe."

With the first single currency deadline of Jan. 1, 1997 fast approaching in macro-economic terms, politicians and central bankers alike have started emphasising stability, low inflation and the need to contain national finances.

Most economists agree that, for the time being at least, inflation does not seem to be a threat but that still-rising government debts and deficits.

"I believe there will be a testing of the 15 per cent (ERM) bands as markets focus increasingly on 1996 and there are attempts to get budget deficits down to three per cent (of gross domestic product)," Mr. Praet said.

China pledges no more tax breaks for state enterprises

BEIJING (AFP) — China has pledged to clamp down on unauthorised tax breaks to the state sector, with an official placing efforts to boost central revenue above those to bail out "teetering" enterprises, a report said.

State Taxation Administration Vice Minister Xiang Huaichang told a conference that the breaks for the loss-making state sector were not allowed under the new tax system which since January has stipulated a uniform rate for domestic enterprises, the China Daily Business Weekly said.

"China will no longer bail out its teetering state-owned enterprises by granting endless tax breaks," Mr. Xiang said.

Previously, state-owned firms enjoyed various kinds of preferential treatment, in-

cluding being allowed to repay bank loans before being taxed and were being let off paying levies when running in the red, the report said.

Despite the new rules, local government have since January continued to grant unauthorised breaks to enterprises in their area, it said.

With about half of China's 200,000 state enterprises losing money, the sector's tax arrears hit more than 16.3 billion yuan (\$1.87 billion) by the end of June, it said.

"If we continue to give tax breaks to those losing money, the new tax system would be eroded and there would be no room for fair play," said Mr. Xiang, adding that the impact on state revenue would be "even worse."

In the first half of the year, national tax revenues totalled 192,943 yuan, up 22.6 per cent, while expenditure rose

27 per cent to 197,329 yuan for a favourable balance of 516 million yuan.

But Mr. Xiang said many problems remained in implementing the new system, aimed at boosting state revenue by replacing Beijing's contractual deal with provincial authorities with an assignment system based on clearly defined central and local tax categories.

Mr. Xiang said conflicts of interest between central and local governments needed "special attention," adding that the state was considering ways to ensure a legitimate rise in local income to help curb unauthorised activities.

Besides illegal tax breaks, other problems include widespread sales of fake VAT invoices and rampant tax dodging by individuals, he said.

New Russia commission to examine corporate debts

MOSCOW (R) — Russia is setting up a special commission to investigate the plague of unpaid bills afflicting every sector of its ailing economy.

Postfactum News Agency said that the commission would be headed by First Deputy Prime Minister Oleg Soskovets, who would report daily to the president and the prime minister on the payments situation and on measures being taken.

Non-payments have become a major problem for thousands of Russian firms. Companies leave bills unpaid in the hope that the government will bail them out. Others say they cannot afford to pay because they have not been paid by their own customers.

The issue has been set to one side for months while officials work out whether they need to act.

Reformers warn that any attempt to forgive debts or cushion the blow for ailing firms would unleash a new inflationary spiral just as prices start to stabilise.

Some conservatives say companies need extra help, although debt forgiveness does not appear to be on the agenda now.

ITAR-TASS news agency said State Industrial Committee Chairman Igor Shurshikov had told a government meeting prices should be frozen for several months to allow enterprises to solve their payment problems.

The government meeting believed authorities should play a key role in fixing prices for transport and fuel, TASS said.

The government last year

suggested companies could swap their debts for a form of promissory notes which would have to be repaid within three months.

But Postfactum said central bank chairman Viktor Gerashchenko had rejected

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Wear our gems in unique gold designs.

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6th Circle - Amman.



Marriott opens new garden

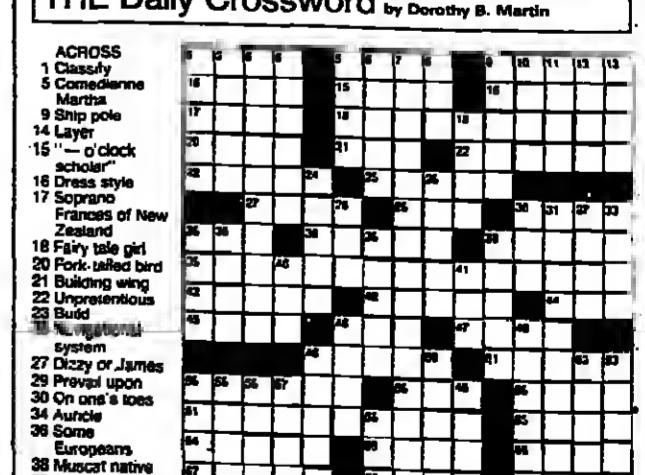
On Tuesday, Aug. 9, 1994, J. Richard Lyon, the general manager of the Amman Marriott Hotel, and Rolf Capellmann, the director of food & beverage opened the new Marriott Garden. A big reception was held on this occasion, attended by many customers and in-house guests.

The garden provides its guests a very relaxing ambiance whereby they can enjoy different types of delicious food from around the world to the sound of oud, and not forgetting the famous aqileh.

The garden is open daily from 7 p.m. until midnight.

Horoscope not received

THE Daily Crossword by Dorothy B. Martin



Syria expects 5% rise in cotton output

DAMASCUS (R) — Syria's cotton output is expected to increase by five per cent over last year to reach about 680,000 tonnes in 1994, an official spokesman said.

The total includes seeds, which usually constitute about 60 per cent of the weight.

Ali Dairi, deputy director of the cotton office at the ministry of agriculture, told Reuters over 160,000 tonnes of ginned output would be exported, mainly to

Italian, French and German customers.

He said Syria exported about 158,000 tonnes of ginned cotton in 1993. Exports in 1992 were 127,000 tonnes.

Mr. Dairi said 196,000 hectares were planted cotton, mainly in northern Syria.

Output has averaged over 600,000 tonnes a year in the 1990s, from a little below 500,000 in the 1980s, he added.

Mr. Dairi said demand is

strong for Syria's cotton on the world market, but output cannot be increased significantly.

"The area planted with cotton cannot be increased to the government's economic and agricultural priority plans which also include other basic products such as cereals and beets," he explained.

Syria has 14 government spinning plants which supply the public and private sectors.

They consume about 50,000 tonnes of ginned cotton a year.

Industry sources and traders say Syria is discussing the possibility of allowing the private sector to engage in spinning.

"Syria is losing a lot of money by exporting ginned cotton only. Spinning it locally would provide the country with higher profits," one trader said.

Vietnam aims to limit dollar's use

HANOI (AFP) — Vietnam is to restrict the use of the U.S. dollar and force firms to deposit foreign currency in bank accounts as a way of drawing money out from under mattresses and into the country's formal financial system.

Under regulations ordered by Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet, from Oct. 1 all foreign currency earned by companies will have to be deposited in authorised bank accounts, with most of it being converted into Vietnamese dong, the official press said Tuesday.

Businesses that now charge for their services in dollars will be forced to accept dong, with only duty free shops at airports taking foreign currency, the report said.

Other businesses will be made to use the local currency for transactions and only companies authorised by the central bank will be able to lend, trade or transfer foreign currency.

But Western economists warned that Vietnam could not wean people off the dollar by legislating trust in its currency but rather needed to build faith in the financial

banking system to draw in more money.

"It's a good idea for Vietnam to regain some control over the currency but it's going to take two to three years to work this through," said one economist.

The moves come after Deputy Prime Minister Pham Van Khai told the National Assembly in May that the government wanted to reduce the use of foreign currency in the economy to get a tighter grip on monetary policy and inflation.

Most Vietnamese prefer to keep their savings, estimated at upwards of \$3 billion in gold or dollars.

North Korea changing trading system

SEOUL (AFP) — North Korea is changing the way it trades with capitalist countries, shifting from barter-based deals to cash, a senior official told a South Korean newspaper.

"North Korean trade officials decided to completely change their way of trading with foreign countries and its trading system has already begun to change," Kim Tae-

Jong, a senior member of the Workers' Party, said in an interview with the Munhwa Ilbo.

The Seoul newspaper quoted Mr. Kim as saying Pyongyang would accelerate its change to a capitalist-style settlement system using cash or credit for active international trading.

Mr. Kim's remarks were made in Malaysia where he

was chief delegate to the first East Asian Younger Leaders' Congress, it said.

He said Pyongyang's change had been prompted by the collapse of its former socialist allies in eastern Europe, but did not explain why the reclusive state would overcome its shortage of foreign exchange to make the payments.

North Korea has refused to open its closed economy despite chronic energy and food shortages caused largely by inability to meet demands for hard cash.

Pyongyang is also ready to open Kumkang (diamond) Mountain as a special tourist zone where foreigners can visit without visas, he said in the interview.

Peanuts



Andy Capp



Mutt'n'Jeff



JUMBLE

THAT SCRABBLE WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

CREMY

DROAR

FORREV

BRANEY

I have some more potatoes

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: AISLE MADAM LIMPID BISECT

Answer: What the lawmakers did at dinner — PASSED THE BILL

Yesterday's Jumble: TOSSED

Answer: A person who is

YESTERDAY'S JUMBLE



U.S. Dollar in International Markets	
Currency	New York Close Date 8/8/94
Sterling Pound	1.5395
Deutsche Mark	1.5825
Swiss Franc	1.3350
French Franc	5.4195
Japanese Yen	101.50
European Currency Unit	1.2075
100 PER STG	1.2090 OPENING 100 PER STG CNYT
Interest Rates	Dates 9/8/1994
Currency	1 MTH 3 MTHS 6 MTHS 12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	4.25 4.56 4.93 5.37
Sterling Pound	5.00 5.31 5.68 6.12
Deutsche Mark	4.75 4.75 5.00
Swiss Franc	5.00 4.06 4.15 4.37
French Franc	5.18 5.25 5.50 5.75
Japanese Yen	1.93 2.06 2.06 2.31
European Currency Unit	5.68 5.81 6.00 6.31
Interest Rates	Interest rates for amounts exceeding U.S. Dollars 1,000,000 or equivalent.
General Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin	Dates 9/8/1994
Currency	Bid Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.6960 0.6980
Sterling Pound	1.0702 1.0756
Deutsche Mark	0.4389 0.4411
Swiss Franc	0.5205 0.5231
French Franc	0.1222 0.1228
Japanese Yen	0.6263 0.6267
Dutch Guilder	0.3908 0.3928
Swedish Krona	4.8444 4.8444
Italian Lira	0.0440 0.0442
Belgian Franc	8.4444 8.4444
Other Currencies	Dates 9/8/1994
Currency	Bid Offer
Lebanese Dinar	1.8300 1.8450
Saudi Riyal	0.040465 0.041875
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.3050 2.3450
Qatari Riyal	0.1900 0.1918
Egyptian Pound	0.2050 0.2250
Omani Riyal	1.7870 1.8040
UAE Dirham	0.1889 0.1958
Greek Drachma	0.2675 0.5035
Cypriot Pound	1.3745 1.5000
Per 100	

* For amounts exceeding U.S. Dollars 1,000,000 or equivalent.

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Dates 9/8/1994

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Greece burn hosts Canada at World Basketball Championships

TORONTO (AFP) — Greece took one of their greatest victories late Monday, shrugging off their coach's resignation to delight a partisan crowd by beating the host nation at the World Basketball Championships.

Fanis Christodoulou scored 26 points, pulled down 10 rebounds and recovered a key turnover in the final seconds to spark Greece past Canada 74-71 in a quarterfinal round-robin game.

Greek coach Efthimis Kiourmourtzoglou quit just before the tournament began in a fued with players. Assistant Makis Dendrinos has guided the club since.

"Regardless of the ups and downs before, we managed to achieve one of our greatest victories," Dendrinos said. "After the unfortunate incident, we put our hearts together and focused on our goals."

"I think he is celebrating along with us," Dendrinos said. "I'm only following his path. This is the team he selected. His blessings and best wishes will be with us the rest of the tournament."

Greece took a major step to the medal round by beating Canada, because both were expected to beat China but lost to Croatia in Group II, games later this week. Croatia routed China 105-73 in the other game here.

Quarterfinal action in the other group was due to begin late Tuesday with Russia playing Puerto Rico and Australia facing the U.S. Dream Team II.

Canada coach Ken Shields feared strong support from Toronto's Greek community



Stojan Vrankovic of Croatia sticks the ball into the side of the basket on a slam dunk as Tao Shan of China tries to block it during the second half of their World Basketball Championship at Maple Leaf Gardens in Toronto Monday. Croatia beat China 105-73 (AFP photo)

would give his foes the home crowd advantage and he was right. Greek flags outnumbered those of the hosts by 20-to-1 among the crowd of 11,083, with the loudest cheers going to Greece. The atmosphere was more like

Athens than Canada's largest city. "I guess they are proud of their heritage and they were cheering for their heritage more than their country," Shields said.

Rick Fox made consecutive

3-point shots to pull Canada within 72-71 with 51 seconds to play. Martin Keane blocked a shot by Efthimis Bakarias in the final minute, but fox stumbled and lost the ball to Christodoulou, setting up a foul dunk by Fassoulas with six seconds to play.

Kory Hallas scored 20 to lead Canada. Fox added 17. Panagiotis Fassoulas added 18 points and eight rebounds for Greece.

Dino Rajda scored 23 points, all in the first half, while Arjan Komazec added 22 points in Croatia's triumph. China trailed 61-41 at half-time.

"We expected much stronger resistance," Croatia's Josip Vrankovic said. "Maybe they didn't have a good day as a team. We were excellent."

Tom Kukoc had 15 assists, two more than the Chinese team, and 13 points. Hu Weidong sank 9-of-14 3-point shots to finish with 31 points, but his impressive long-range shooting was not enough to keep China in the game.

"Shooting is only one part of the game. You must have the other parts," Croatia coach Giuseppe Gierra said.

Dream Team II centre Shaquille O'Neal took a front-row seat beneath a basket for both games. He received a prime view of Rajda and Kukoc dunking and jamming home shots past the outmanned Chinese. But Komazec said Shaq has not seen the best of Croatia.

"I didn't think China could stay with us," said Komazec, whose team faces Canada Wednesday. "Now I think the real games come and we will show our quality."

Baseball strike looks certain

NEW YORK (AFP) — A strike looks set to start Friday after lawyers acting for baseball players and owners failed to reach an agreement on capping salaries.

If the strike goes ahead, it will be the eighth stoppage in 22 years. Owners asked for a salary cap in 1983 and 1990 but then withdrew after union opposition.

Speaking for the management, negotiator Richard Ravitch said: "I don't want to spark any unrealistic optimism, but when you're in a situation like this, I wouldn't dare predict what's going to happen between now and Friday."

"That doesn't mean I think the fairy godmother will descend with a solution."

Fehr said he hoped to convince management to make a proposal similar to the collective bargaining arrangements that have existed since 1976.

On a possible stoppage, Ravitch said: "Do I think 800 baseball players are rigid ideologically about this? I'm not so sure."

"This doesn't have the air of a dispute that's going to settle," Fehr said. "This has the air of a dispute the owners are intent on forcing. They've expected a strike since long before they put their proposal on the table."

He said the only sign of hope was that executive council chairman Bud Selig backed off the claim that 19 teams would lose money this year, saying the minimum number was 12-to-14.

Jordi Cruyff hoping to follow the mythical steps of Johan

MADRID, Spain (AP) — Celebrating his 20-year relationship with Spanish champion FC Barcelona last year, coach and soccer ace Johan Cruyff said his one dream then was for his son Jordi to play on the club's first team.

Less than a year later, 20-year-old Jordi appears on the threshold of bringing that dream true. Six goals in two games made him Barcelona's top scorer on its recent pre-season tour of his native Netherlands.

"Cruyff and Cruyff: The new tandem" said the front-page headline of the Barcelona-based *El Periodico* while the rest of Spain's newspapers ran laudatory reports on the budding midfielder.

Many observers even noted that the success of Jordi alongside new Romanian signing Gheorghe Hagi had made Johan Cruyff and his club forget their bitter feelings over the errant ways of Brazilian ace Romario who has failed to return to Barcelona since his team won the World Cup.

Jordi teamed up with Hagi to score three times in Barcelona's 5-5 draw against Groningen and netted another treble in the 4-1 win over De Graafschap last week.

But the young Cruyff has been careful not to let the glory zoom to his head.

"We mustn't exaggerate. I've demonstrated that I know something, but now I want to be left alone to show I can do more," he said.

But he frequent whistles and boos with which the young Dutchman was greeted everytime he got the ball demonstrated clearly how

tough it is being the son of one of Europe's most talented footballers and successful coaches.

"

"

"The surname has weighed heavily," the long blond-haired player said in a recent interview. "Especially at the beginning... Whenever I got onto the pitch, people would say 'look that's Cruyff's son, the teacher's pet.'

On the one hand, Dutch fans often cheer him for playing in Spain while Spaniards get their digs in because he's the coach's son.

Born in Amsterdam, Jordi, who measures 1.84 metres and weighs just 70 kilograms, needs to be beefed up and have placed him on a special diet.

The young Cruyff's one apparent weakness is his slight build, which has made him easy prey for aggressive defenders.

Club officials say Jordi, who measures 1.84 metres and weighs just 70 kilograms, needs to be beefed up and have placed him on a special diet.

The young Cruyff's one apparent weakness is his slight build, which has made him easy prey for aggressive defenders.

"I'm not going to put him out in front of 100,000 spectators for them to tear him apart because he's not prepared," Johan Cruyff told *El Periodico*.

The son, too, is prepared to be patient and let his father call the shots.

"I understand he has a difficult task with me," he said. "While he may be proud of me as a player, I think he has to hide it a little because of the others. I think he knows how to differentiate between son and player."

Simpson gets smaller cell, heads to court

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Former football great O.J. Simpson has been moved to a smaller jail cell as his attorneys try to make sure they have all the prosecution's evidence.

Lead defence attorney Robert Shapiro wanted to resolve his motions seeking access to telephone records and the backgrounds of potential witnesses at a hearing set for late Tuesday.

Also before superior court judge Lance Ito were a pair up media motions involving coverage of the trial, and two motions that were sealed and their contents undisclosed.

The defence opposes a bid by several news organisations to see photographs of the murder scene and sealed transcripts of in-chambers conferences between the judge and lawyers. Defence attorneys said disclosing the discussions could "shatter the private lives of prospective witnesses and third parties... currently unknown to the press."

In the second motion, a group of broadcast news organisations has petitioned the judge to bar a defence lawyer from talking with print reporters in the courtroom unless cameras and

microphones monitor the conversations.

Simpson is charged with murder in the June 12 knife killings of his ex-wife Nicole Brown Simpson and her friend Ronald Goldman. Prosecutors have not yet decided whether to seek the death penalty. The trial is to begin Sept. 19.

Other developments Monday:

Authorities disclosed that Simpson was moved Friday from a cell on the second floor of the Los Angeles county jail to the ground floor of the same section in order to save overtime costs.

Defendants in the special section reserved for high-profile defendants are allowed no contact with each other and can't leave their cells, deputy Matthew Rodriguez said.

"Mr. Simpson is being housed within one cell on a row of seven cells. Each of the other cells is vacant," Rodriguez said.

"O.J. Simpson continues to receive his meals in his cell and he is periodically allowed to exercise alone on a stationary bicycle. A public telephone is available to him during his exercise periods."

Reyna signs for Leverkusen

CHICAGO, Illinois (AP) — America's Claudio Reyna signed a one-year contract with Bundesliga contender Bayer Leverkusen, the U.S. Football Federation announced (USF) Monday.

The 21-year-old midfielder was selected for the USA in this year's World Cup, but a hamstring injury just before the event kept him sidelined.

"This is very exciting for me to have a chance to play in the Bundesliga. This is a great opportunity to play

with and against some of the top players in the world," said Reyna, who will join U.S. teammate Thomas Dooley at Leverkusen.

However, Reyna was looking to return to football in the USA once it had formed a professional league.

"I would love to be able to come back to the United States after the Bundesliga season and participate in Major League Soccer. It has always been a dream of mine to play professional soccer in a first division league in the U.S."

The 21-club league (MLS) is set to begin next March.

Piggott fined for Sweden non-appearance

LONDON (AP) — Legendary British Jockey Lester Piggott was fined Monday by Swedish racing authorities for failing to ride in the country on Sunday. Piggott, 58, had been double booked for his first ride since a fall at Goodwood in England July 28 and chose to ride in Germany where he finished second on Queen Elizabeth II's sharp prod in the Grosser Preis von Baden at Hoppegarten.

The 11-time English champion jockey had been booked for six mounts on Swedish Derby day at Jägersro, Malmö. He was fined 3,000 kroner (\$375). The Swedes had plenty of warning. Piggott would not be coming and his mounts were redistributed. But a racecard had already been printed with a big welcome article and a special programme about Piggott was shown on local television.

Becker finding his way again

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Boris Becker wants to find his old game. The game that featured hoisting serves, acrobatic dives and driving volleys, the game he used to win Wimbledon as a 17-year-old.

The game that made him the world's no. 1 player three years ago.

At 26, Becker finds himself making a comeback. He hasn't reached a Grand Slam final the last two years after being a fixture in the major finals since 1987. He even skipped the Australian and French Opens this year.

But slowly, he's finding his way again.

He was a semifinalist at Wimbledon last month. And the surest sign that Becker's game is back on track came Sunday in the Los Angeles Open final.

He swept past Mark Woodforde of Australia 6-2, 6-2 in 55 minutes to win the 40th title of his 10-year pro career.

Becker won't have it so easy playing in this week's \$1.7 million ATP championship in Cincinnati, part of an intensive preparation

for the U.S. Open beginning Aug. 29.

"I have a strong desire again to compete with the likes of (Pete) Sampras," he said. "I almost can't wait until the U.S. Open begins because I'm in good form and I'm eager to play."

Becker likes to point out that he never really went away these last few years. He just wasn't winning as often because his heart and mind were on family matters. He got married to Barbara Feltus and the couple has a young son, Noah.

"For some reason it didn't fit in the picture that a man took time out to clear his private life," the German said.

"It just seemed like a surprise to everybody that I did all those things."

Becker went through other changes, too. Last year, he parted ways with coach Gunther Bresnik and ended a 10-year relationship with manager Ion Tiriac.

"All those things took so much away from tennis and I knew that, but in order to have a life after 25 in tennis, I needed to make those moves.

Becker credits new coach Nick Bollettieri with motivat-

ing him to spend extra hours in the weight room and on the practice court.

"He's just one of those few coaches who don't depend on me," he said. "Nick stands on his own. That was a very important foundation for our start. We're both very independent characters."

That's reflected in their differing opinions about Becker's weight. Bollettieri and Woodforde agreed that Becker had put on some extra pounds, slowing him around the court.

Becker disagreed, saying, "I was never a skinny little boy. I was quite well-built."

Mostly though, pupil and coach have been happy since striking up an unlikely alliance last January.

"He's getting his second wind," Bollettieri said. "He's a star. I love coaching him."

With his personal life settled, Becker is concentrating on his comeback and a single goal.

"Just to be able to compete with the best players again, just to be Boris Becker on the court," he said.



Boris Becker

Fatal falls highlight dangers of summer Alpine tourism

GENEVA (AP) — The sunbaked Alps, which lure tens of thousands of aspiring mountaineers, are turning into a death trap for the unsuspecting and the ill-prepared.

Within one week — the deadliest so far this summer — more than 20 people died in climbing accidents in Switzerland, France and Italy.

"It's not the mountains that are more dangerous at this time of year, it's people," commented Sepp Inderkum, rescue chief at the Swiss Alpine Club.

"People have much less respect for mountains in

beautiful weather," he added.

During cool days in spring and autumn, the peaks tend to attract dedicated climbers, who are well equipped and know to expect sudden changes in conditions.

But at the height of the vacation period, "day tourists" take over. Many are unfamiliar with the route, reluctant to rise at dawn to start long hikes, and poorly outfitted.

"In most cases, people who we have to help either have very little experience or none at all," said Armando Poli, president of Italian first aid corps. "A lot of them get

injured and find themselves in trouble in easy situations like pathways through woods."

An exceptionally hot summer throughout Europe has melted the ice layer even on the highest peaks. This has increased the risk of avalanches of loose snow and rock slides.

An avalanche on the French side of the imposing Mont Blanc Mountain — the Alpinists' "European Mecca" — left nine people dead on July 29. Three people were killed in a fall Aug. 4 on the Italian part of the 4,807 metre-high (15,782 feet) mountain, the tallest of the

Alps.

Nine mountain visitors fell to their death during a national holiday weekend in Switzerland. A 74-year-old American woman, who stumbled over a rock precipice and smashed into a dry

stream bed 30 metres (100 feet) below, was among the victims, as was a 39-year-old man wearing only sandals.

Their names weren't released by authorities.

The worst incident occur-

Sports

English Managers fear red card rush under new rules

LONDON (AP) — A flood of bookings and sendings-off were predicted Tuesday to dominate the start of the English soccer season this weekend after the confirmation of tough new rule changes.

Team managers were told that the crackdown in the rules applied by FIFA in the World Cup in the United States this summer will be carried over to the domestic game.

As in the World Cup, attackers are to be given the benefit of the doubt in offside decisions, with players running back from offside positions not penalised if the referee rules they are not interfering with play.

The violent tackle from behind becomes a red card offence, there are strict guidelines on time wasting and dissent, and players are no longer allowed to be treated for injury on the pitch.

But the changes did not meet with universal approval by the English game's top managers, several saying it was unnecessary tinkering with an English game which is in a healthy state.

"I hope things are not going to be as bad as one or two of us felt in that meeting," OPR chief Gerry Francis said after the managers were told of the rule changes.

"The World Cup was a success, but there was a real increase in red and yellow cards. I hope that doesn't happen."

"The rules on the tackle from behind have always been there. But we must not put the referees under too much pressure to book players just for tackling. I hope that common sense will prevail, because there is not much wrong with English football."

"These are not proposals. They are instructions coming down from FIFA — so it is not a debate. It is fact," he said.

The new rules and interpretations will come into effect for the first time Saturday, when England's lower divisions and the Scottish league season starts.

The English premier league kicks off the following week, with the Charity Shield between Manchester United and Blackburn Rovers at Wembley Sunday.

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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

*AK86 ♦A9875 ♦84 ♦66
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East

1 ♦ Pass 2 ♦ Pass
2 ♦ Pass 2 ♦ Pass

What do you bid now?

Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

*J832 ♦QJ ♦AK102 ♦54

The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West

1 ♦ Pass 3 ♦ Pass
2 ♦ Pass 2 ♦ Pass

What do you bid now?

Q.3—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

*AK86 ♦A1062 ♦K1075 ♦46

The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East

1 ♦ Pass 3 ♦ Pass
2 ♦ Pass 3 NT Pass

?—Limit raise, 10-12 points
What do you bid now?

Q.4—East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:

*A6 ♦963 ♦4 ♦A865522

The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West

1 ♦ Pass 1 ♦ Pass
2 ♦ Pass 2 ♦ Pass

3 NT Pass ?

What action do you take?

Q.5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

*3 ♦A108432 ♦676 ♦Q95

The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West

1 ♦ Pass 1 ♦ Pass
2 ♦ Pass 2 ♦ Pass

3 NT Pass ?

What action do you take?



Britain's Linford Christie (No. 3) crosses the second placed Norwegian Geir Moen (No. 6) finish line to take the gold medal followed by

During the men's 100m event at the European Athletics Championships Monday (AFP photo)

Christie goes one-two-three

HELSINKI (AP) — It's as simple as 1-2-3 for Linford Christie.

Or rather 86-90-94.

Those are the years the British runner has been king of European sprinters, winning three European championship titles in the 100 metres.

Christie's third win Monday tied the record set by Valery Borzov of the Soviet Union over a five-year span in 1969, 1971 and 1974.

His time wasn't fast, just 10.14 seconds. That's barely outside the 10.15 he ran when he won his first European title eight years ago in Stuttgart, Germany. In 1990 in Split, he won his second title in 10.00.

Christie was faster in Sunday's qualifying race than he was Monday, running as eased-up 10.08.

"I came here just to win the title. Now I have the championship, which is all that really matters," he said.

Christie had not raced in 23 days before Sunday. He was sidelined for three weeks with a left hamstring injury.

"I was very hungry. I wanted to race," Christie said. "Once I knew I was over my injury, no one was going to beat me."

Christie jumped into the lead by the 50-metre mark and started to pull away. But he lacked his customary strong finish and a fast-closing Geir Moen of Norway finished less than a metre behind in 10.20.

British teammate Steve Backley is one gold behind Christie. Backley won the javelin for the second straight

finals.

Irina Privalova took the women's 100 easily in 11.02,

well off the European record of 10.77 she set earlier this year.

"The time does not bother me," Privalova said. "I am just so glad for the victory."

Mikhail Shchennikov took the men's 20-kilometre walk in 1 hour, 18 minutes, 45 seconds. It was his first major outdoor title although he has won four consecutive European indoor walk victories.

World champion Anna Biryukova of Russia won the first triple jump for women at the European meet with a leap of 14.89 metre (48 feet, 10 1/4 inches).

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EUROPEAN ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Braun in trouble; Gunnell cruises through

HELSINKI (R) — German Sabine Braun and Briton Svetlana Svetlana Moskalets who managed 6.44 metres, the second longest jump behind Hungarian Rita Inanesi's 6.48.

Moskalets led the competition with 4,814 points, 42 points ahead of Braun who was second on the third day of the European Athletics Championships Tuesday.

While 400 metres hurdles world champion Gunnell cruised through her heat to win in 55.17 seconds, defending European heptathlon champion Braun was left wondering what was wrong with her form after slipping

further behind in her event.

Braun, who won the silver medal at last year's world championships after an intense battle with American Jackie Joyner-Kersee, could manage only 6.32 metres in the long jump, usually one of her favourite events where she has a personal best of 6.70 metres.

After a disappointing first day, the 29-year-old German, a former national long jump champion, slipped further behind Russian overnight lead-

er Svetlana Moskalets who had to get up early for the 10 a.m. start to the races.

"I'm fine, I'm happy but it is early in the morning for me," Gunnell said. "I was awake at 5:30 and didn't sleep much. Then I was up at 10 past six. But I hate waiting in the heat (for the event to start). Now I'm in business, it's good."

Gunnell sat patiently on the lane box marker with her eyes closed before the race. But she looked wide awake after the gun and was rising first to the hurdles after 100 metres.

Maybe there is something wrong with my body after my tonsil problem (in July). I am not recovering well or something. This is not my competition. It is not that I am not enjoying it — it is the European championships way but it just does not seem to be working right at the moment."

Gunnell, who smashed the world record in winning her gold in Stuttgart, could afford to slow up in the last 100 metres and reached the semifinals with ease. Her

Russian Olga Nazarov took the first heat in 55.71 for the third best time.

The only minor surprise of the morning came in the pole vault where Spain's Olympic bronze medalist Javier Garcia failed to qualify for the final after clearing only 5.40 metres.

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Richard Gere/Sharon Stone in INTERSECTION	Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.	Sharhan-Mahmoud Hamideh — Hussein Fahmi in Women's market Arabic	Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.	CONCORD '1' PHILADELPHIA	Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.	John Saxon/Sherrie Rose — in MAXIMUM FORCE	Today & Everyday Abu Awad in social comedy "PUNCTURED BAG"	WHAT A PLACE! (Salam Ya 'Salam)	Present their play WHAT A PLACE! (Salam Ya 'Salam)
				CONCORD '2'	Shows: 6:15, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.	Starting Aug. 15 the political play "SAHRA KANAUNIEH"		Daily at 8:30 p.m. The theatre is closed on Tuesdays	
				ROBINHOOD	Shows: 6:15, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.				

NEWS IN BRIEF

Syrian TV carries pictures of Aqaba summit

DAMASCUS (AFP) — Official Syrian television on Monday carried pictures of the first public visit to Jordan of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. A Syrian commentator said Mr. Rabin and King Hussein had in fact known each other for 20 years. The footage showed Mr. Rabin, King Hussein and U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher on a cruise on the Red Sea aboard the royal Jordanian yacht. Mr. Rabin had earlier attended the inauguration of the first border crossing between Jordan and Israel.

Turkish private TV appeals against MTV ban

ANKARA (AP) — A private television network has appealed against a ban on broadcasting the popular international music television MTV in Turkey, news reports said. Interstar TV had allocated a channel for MTV broadcast. But government board last week banned the broadcasts of MTV, as well as the international sports network Eurosport, which used another channel. After the state monopoly on broadcasting was lifted, the government set up tight restrictions, which included a ban on the transmission of satellite broadcasts. The Istanbul newspaper Cumhuriyet said Interstar officials appealed to the board to lift the ban, saying it was anti-democratic and "could hurt Turkey's image abroad." MTV had become very popular in Turkey since its broadcasts began early this year.

Velayati begins tour of Central Asia

TEHRAN (AFP) — Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati on Tuesday began a tour of several countries in Central Asia and the Caucasus to discuss bilateral and regional issues, the official Iranian news agency IRNA said. Mr. Velayati will visit Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kirghizistan, Turkmenistan, Azerbaijan and Nakhichevan, an autonomous enclave in Azerbaijan. The Tehran Times welcomed the tour, but urged Mr. Velayati not to visit Uzbekistan whose "leader Islam Karimov takes an anti-Iranian stance." It accused Uzbekistan of cooperation with Israel to suppress militant Islamic movements in the region. "Karimov's policies and actions together with his recent anti-Iranian stance should be enough for Velayati not to go to Tashkent," it said. Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres visited Uzbekistan last month. He held talks with Uzbek leaders mainly on the rise of Islamic fundamentalist in Central Asia.

Kidnapped Finnish tourists safe

HELSINKI (AFP) — The two Finnish tourists kidnapped by Kurdish rebels in eastern Turkey are well and will be released as soon as the situation is safe and possible, according to the Kurdistan information centre in Finland. The centre told Finnish authorities late Monday that Marko Hotakainen, 27, and Tuomo Polari, 20, were in good health and were being cared for. According to Risto Kauppi, the Finnish ambassador to Ankara, the kidnappers have not yet made contact with Finnish embassy. Hotakainen and Mr. Polari were seized Saturday after a group from the Kurdish Labour Party (PKK) stopped their hired car travelling between Tunceli and Pulumur and told them they could not go any further as they did not have "entry visas for Kurdistan." The separatist Kurds of the PKK are demanding that tourists produce "entry visas" to visit Kurdish-dominated southeastern Turkey where the Marxist-Leninist group wants to found a separate state. More than 20 tourists have been kidnapped since the beginning of last year in eastern and southeastern Turkey after the Kurds began attacks aimed at undermining the tourist industry. All were set free and were not harmed during their captivity.

One dead in Cuban boat hijacking

MIAMI (AFP) — Cuba informed the U.S. government Tuesday that one of its boats had been hijacked by a group of unknown assailants who killed a navy officer in the attack, a Cuban diplomat said. After the incident was reported to U.S. officials early Tuesday, the U.S. Coast Guard advised immigration officials to be prepared to process a group of Cubans in Miami, a government source said. Cuba demanded that the United States return the hijackers who allegedly killed a Cuban navy lieutenant and forced four sailors off the ship when they commanded the vessel docked in the port of Mariel.

Death penalty sought over Rushdie riot

ANKARA (R) — Turkish prosecutors have demanded the death penalty for 29 people in connection with riots over Salman Rushdie's novel "The Satanic Verses," court officials said on Tuesday. Thirty seven people died in the riots. The hearing, amid tight security, was closed to the press and public but a court official quoted chief prosecutor Nusret Demirli as saying 29 defendants faced capital charges. Mr. Demirli said there were moves to include prominent writer Aziz Nesin among the defendants, but not on capital charges.

Pakistan hands over 3 suspects to Egypt

CAIRO (AFP) — Three Egyptian Islamic fundamentalists living in Pakistan arrived at Cairo airport on Tuesday after their arrest and extradition by Pakistani authorities, security officials said here. The three suspected militants, who were not named, were said to be members of a group of 13 Arabs who fought against the Soviet invasion in Afghanistan. They were arrested last week and returned to Egypt in line with an extradition accord signed between the two countries in July.

Clinton's popularity sags, poll shows

WASHINGTON (AFP) — Americans are increasingly dissatisfied with President Bill Clinton's performance despite the strength of the U.S. economy, according to a newly published Washington Post-ABC News poll. The poll, conducted last week by telephone among 1,015 adults, found that 47 per cent approved of his performance — a 10 point drop from four months ago — and an equal percentage disapproved.

Swedish agency gets ransom demand

STOCKHOLM (AFP) — Kidnappers holding Swedish aid worker Lena Thelander hostage in Mogadishu have made a ransom demand for her release, International Aid Sweden (IAS) spokesman Per Lindahl said Tuesday. "We have received a demand from the kidnappers, they want money from us," he said, but did not disclose how much was being demanded.

U.S.: No evidence Saudis sought reactor

WASHINGTON (R) — The State Department has no evidence to support allegations by a former Saudi diplomat that Saudi Arabia sought to purchase a nuclear reactor from China, a spokesman said. The New York Times in its Sunday editions reported that the former diplomat, Mohammad Al Khilewi, said Saudi Arabia tried in 1989 to buy research reactors from Chinese and U.S. sources as part of a secret effort to acquire nuclear arms. "We don't have any indication to support the allegation, have no indication that the Saudis sought to purchase a nuclear reactor from China," spokesman Mike McCurry said during a news briefing. "The type of reactor mentioned in the report, a miniature neutron-source reactor, we believe poses no proliferation concerns. It's used for basic research and for radio isotope production."

France tightens security sweep

PARIS (Agencies) — France banned five Islamist publications on Tuesday and detained 36 more people after a third night of police roadblocks in Paris in a widening clampdown on suspected Algerian Muslim fundamentalists.

An interior ministry order published in the official journal on Tuesday outlawed five foreign periodicals accused of containing incitement to terrorism against France.

The stepped up security campaign follows the killings last week of five French in Algeria and threatened reprisals if comrades in detention here are not released.

According to police sources quoted by French newspapers, radicals from Algeria have formed the makings of a network that could be used as a support base by extremists.

The text of the ban, issued Saturday but made public Tuesday, said the publications could not be sold or distributed in France because of "their violently anti-Western and anti-French tone and the call to terrorism they contain."

The publications — three of them Arab-language — "are of a nature to endanger public order," according to the interior ministry. "It is urgent in the current context to forbid these publications throughout (French) territory."

The ban was issued on the day the Islamic Salvation Army (AIS) threatened unspecified reprisals against France if 17 Muslim fundamentalists detained in an unnamed army barracks in northeast France are not freed.

Paris police headquarters said 36 people were detained during a third successive night of spot checks on vehicles and pedestrians in railway stations, airports and key intersections in the capital.

The latest haul took to 109 the number of people handed over to the justice authorities for possible prosecution after being picked up on the streets since Saturday night.

Altogether, 2,777 people and 1,434 vehicles were checked on Monday night. Several of those detained were foreigners held because of irregularities in their residence papers.

On Monday, an Algerian-born science student was placed under investigation and remained in custody after being arrested collecting an arms cache from a locker at a suburban Paris supermarket.

Police said he was wanted in connection with a post office hold-up in the Rouen area last month. There was no suggestion that the incident was politically motivated.

Algeria's Islamic insurgency has killed 56 foreigners — 15 of them French — and more than 4,000 Algerians in 30 months. But the threats of reprisals triggered officials' fears the crisis could spread across the Mediterranean to French soil.

France supports Algeria's military-backed government fighting the Islamic insurgen-



WADI ARABA TALKS: Jordanian and Israeli negotiators in a sub-commission on borders meet in a tent camp in Wadi Arava on Tuesday (see page one) (Petra photo)

Arafat wins pledge of speeded up aid

GAZA CITY (AFP) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat won a promise of speeded up World Bank help for Palestinian autonomy on Tuesday ahead of a meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Mr. Arafat met senior World Bank official Prem Gang who said afterwards:

"An issue of great concern to the chairman was financing the budget deficit, and in this respect I am pleased to say that this will be taken care of."

The pledge represented a breakthrough for the cash-strapped Palestinian authority, which has an estimated budget deficit of \$150 million for this year.

Mr. Rabin is due to discuss the financial crisis and other problems facing the Palestinians when he meets Mr. Arafat at the Erez crossing point between Israel and the Gaza Strip on Wednesday.

"We will discuss important issues," Mr. Arafat said

ahead of the talks.

Since arriving in Gaza in early July to head the new authority, Mr. Arafat has accused international donors of abandoning their aid pledges.

Donor states have com-

plained of a lack of proper Palestinian accounting procedures, and have channelled through the World Bank only \$47.5 million of the \$720 million pledged for the first year of self-rule.

"We all recognise the donors' assistance has not moved at the pace it should," Mr. Gang said. "But now we can say the assistance will pick up. Let's not forget that it's a new experiment which requires a system to be established, and it's a hard procedure to start."

He also promised to tackle the financing of the Palestinian police force soon.

Last month the Palestinian authority halved policemen's salaries, claiming they included May bonuses which were to be removed.

Amin Haddad, the authority's representative to the World Bank, also said negotiations were underway toward implementation of certain projects.

He said \$128 million were needed for urgent projects, and another \$268 million for investment programmes.

Mr. Arafat has spoken of his "despair" over his treatment by the Israelis since he arrived in the Gaza Strip.

Israeli officials said Mr. Rabin wanted to reassure Mr. Arafat in Wednesday's talks that the Palestinians will not suffer because of the accelerated peace moves with Jordan and would brief him on his talks in Aqaba on Monday.

It will be their first encounter since Mr. Arafat settled in the autonomous strip on July 12.

Palestinians have accused the Israelis of slowing the application of the autonomy agreement because of their reconciliation with Jordan.

"The Erez meeting shows that the rapprochement with Jordan will not be at the expense of the Palestinians," Environment Minister Yossi Sarid told AFP.

Palestinians also say Israel has reneged on its promise to release more than 6,000 prisoners, allow free passage between Gaza and Jericho, and to begin redeploying the army outside population centres.

At talks in Cairo on extending Palestinian powers, negotiators agreed that Israel would keep control over archaeological sites, while the new Palestinian authority in the territories will take charge of tourism services.

Negotiators have now hammered out the transfer of powers in four of five designated sectors — education, health and social affairs as well as tourism.

But the fifth sector, income tax, is proving a stumbling block.

Argentine is prepared to expel Iranian diplomats

BUENOS AIRES (Agencies) — Argentine Foreign Minister Guido Di Tella said Tuesday that his government would expel Iranian diplomats from the country if they were found responsible for the July 18 bomb attack on a Jewish centre.

But Mr. Di Tella, speaking on state radio, said that the government was not completely sure that the Iranian embassy officials were linked to the bombing of the Jewish Argentine Mutual Association that claimed 100 lives and wounded 250 people.

"We are not fully convinced" that Iranian diplomats were involved in the attack, said Mr. Di Tella.

He added that if the evidence pointed clearly to the involvement of the Iranian diplomats, Argentina would request that they leave but would not break off diplomatic relations with Tehran.

"All that we are going to do is that they leave," he said.

"This would not mean that we are breaking off diplomatic relations but rather than there is a problem in relations," he added.

Justice officials said Monday they had gathered suffi-

cient evidence to link the Iranian diplomats and alleged members of the Hezbollah group to the attack, a claim repeated by Israel.

A Buenos Aires newspaper, "Pagina 12," identified six Iranian diplomats as having links to the deadly blast including First Secretary Abbas Zarabot Khorasan and Commercial Secretary Golam Reza Zangeneh, an alleged Hezbollah commander.

The Argentine Foreign Ministry reported to justice authorities that Mr. Zangeneh and another official were currently working in the embassy while the other four ended their assignments between six months and a year ago.

Defence Minister Oscar Camilioni told ATC television that the Iranian diplomats would be declared persona non grata in the event that their involvement in the bombing was confirmed.

Officials said that it was not necessary for the government to have a court verdict on the alleged involvement of the diplomats to take action but rather a "sound conviction and clear indications" that such is the case.

An official, speaking on

bombing, is the only person still detained by police.

Arieli Nitzaner, the owner of the auto repair shop where police believe the minivan was rigged, said he was beaten during his weeklong detention by police trying to force him into a confession. He was freed Friday.

"They put a black bag over my head, tied it around my neck, and I felt like I was choking," Mr. Nitzaner told the newspaper Pagina 12. He said he was later beaten by one of his interrogators.

Mr. Nitzaner, who said he is Jewish, said police put both him and his business partner, Marcelo Joue, under intense psychological pressure.

About 200 people led by Ruben Beraja, president of the Delegation of Argentine Jewish Associations, marched to the central court building in Buenos Aires on Monday to demand that the bombing case be solved quickly.

The judge has worked intensively and effectively, with a lot of seriousness, and we hope that effort results in success," Mr. Beraja said of Judge Galeano's investigation.

Iraqi entry into peace process in the cards

By Mariam M. Shahin
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — As Jordan and Israel continue to advance their quest for peace, there are increasing indications that Jordan's neighbour, Iraq, may soon be joining the Middle East peace process.

A clandestine meeting between an Iraqi defence official and an Israeli was reported by Yedioth Ahronoth, the largest circulating paper in Israel in early August. An approach to Israel's U.N. envoy "to talk peace" by the Iraqi U.N. ambassador in New York was reported by the Palestinian-Israeli weekly Al-Safra.

But what amounts to speculation by the press does carry some evident weight behind it.

On the one hand Iraq appears to have become increasingly isolated internationally. On the other hand

there are many signs that the allied resolve to keep it isolated is weakening.

However, despite French, Russian and Chinese protests every six weeks the U.N. sanctions committee are simply renewed without too much ado.

Attempts by the Turks to repair and reopen an oil pipeline, a bid by Pakistan to open airways allowing easier access for Shi'ite worshippers to visit Karbala and Najaf and pleas by Russia to recommend its projects from before the sanctions have all been stalled for the moment.

Even the Iraqi Kurds, the pet project of aid agencies, have now been pushed aside by the more urgent needs in Bosnia, Rwanda, Yemen and the like. A cut in the number of U.N. guards protecting the Kurds in the northern semi-autonomous regions have been decreased yet again after only 20 per cent of the

There are increasing number of conditions from different parties on how to achieve this," he said.

According to Iraqi officials the conditions that

their country is expected to meet are being dictated primarily by the United States and its allies.

"First there are issues of preferential trade relationships with U.S. firms — construction, reconstruction, petroleum etc. Then there is the issue of the peace talks," said the official.

According to Iraqi officials who speak on condition of anonymity there are several things on the agenda of discussion.

"First of all Iraq is interested in getting sanctions lifted or at least relaxed. This is a number one priority," a government official told the Jordan Times this week.

"There are increasing number of conditions from different parties on how to achieve this," he said.

According to a senior member of the European Commission in Brussels, Europeans question whether the U.S. insistence that sanctions against Iraq

not be softened may be due to "strategic" rather than security reasons.

"We suspect that the U.S. will put a heavy price on its 'yes' vote to lift sanctions," said the official.

That price, many European officials suspect, may be "exclusive trade terms," said the EC official.

The Europeans say that much like what happened in post-war Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, the "big deal" will go to the Americans — that's one price for lifting sanctions."

But Iraqi officials say that trade conditions are only one item on a long list of terms that are being talked about. "Since the beginning of the peace talks it has been clear that eventually we will be pressured to join the negotiations," said an Iraqi official in Baghdad.

"When the multilateral talks began two countries

(Continued on page 7)

COLUMN
London probes holiday burglary spree

LONDON (R) — A British government minister demanded to know why a teenager convicted of burglary was taken on holiday by social workers posing as his parents to a leisure complex, where he immediately went on a burling spree. Social Services Minister John Bowis asked local authorities in Essex, just outside London, for a report on the case of the 14-year-old boy. Newspaper reports said the teenager, who had a previous conviction for burglary, was taken by the social workers to a luxury Centre Parcs Complex as part of a therapeutic programme. The youth, who was not named, broke into nine holiday chalets within two days of checking in, the reports said. Mr. Bowis said he was anxious to prevent the treatment of young offenders from being seen as a reward for their misbehaviour. He said in a statement that, if the reports of the case were correct, "then clearly there is a need for an investigation into how this situation occurred."